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Message Text

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53
ACTION PPTE-00

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---------- 013291
P R 081300Z NOV 76
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5386
INFO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMCONSUL ADANA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CPAS, TU
SUBJECT: 1977 DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS

REF: A-4462, SEPTEMBER 21, 1976

1. THE EMBASSY HAS CAREFULLY REVIEWED THE CHANGE-OVER PROCES FROM OLD STYLE DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS TO THE NEW FORMAT DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS OUTLINED IN THE REFERENCED AIRGRAM AND BELIEVES THAT SUCH A PROCESS WILL CREATE UNNECESSARY DIFFICULTY FOR BEARERS OF SUCH PASSPORTS ASSIGNED IN TURKEY. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT SUITABLY ENDORSED REGULAR NO-FEE PASSPORTS CAN BE ISSUED FOR EMERGENCY OR OFFICIAL TRAVEL, TURKEY NORMALLY REQUIRES SIMULTAN-EOUS PRESENTATION OF AN OLD CANCELLED PASSPORT WHEN A NEW PASSPORT IS USED FOR ENTRY AND DEPARTURE BECAUSE OF IMPORTANT NOTATIONS, ORIGINAL VISA AND ENTRY STAMPS, ETC., WHICH THEY MUST REFER TO. WITHOUT THE OLD PASSPORT WE WOULD MOST LIKELY HAVE TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OR OTHER AP-PROPRIATE TURKISH AUTHORITIES FOR EXCEPTIONS TO NORMAL IMMIGRA-TION AND CUSTOMS PRACTICES.

2. THE EMBASSY HAS TWO SUGGESTIONS WHICH IT WISHES THE DEPART-MENT TO CONSIDER AS AN ALTERNATE PROCEDURE APPLICABLE TO TURKEY (AND PERHAPS OTHER COUNTRIES) TO THAT OUTLINED IN THE REFERENCED AIRGRAM AND PROPOSES THAT THE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ONE WHICH IT DEEMS MOST APPROPRIATE.

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1) SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS WITHOUT THEIR BEING ACCOMPANIED

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BY THE OLD PASSPORT (THE BEARER BEING PERMITTED TO RETAIN IT).
DELIVERY OF THE NEW PASSPORTS WILL BE EFFECTED BY EXCHANGING
THE OLD FOR THE NW AND CANCELLATION OF THE OLD PASSPORT BEFORE
RETURNING IT TO THE BEARER; CERTIFICATION OF THE CANCELLATION
THEN BEING MADE TO THE DEPARTMENT; OR 2) FOR THECONSULAR
SECTION TO TAKE PHYSICAL POSSESSION OF THE OLD PASSPORTS AT THE TIME
NEW APPLICATIONS ARE SUBMITTED AND RETAIN THEM UNTIL THE NEW
PASSPORTS ARE RECEIVED AND THEN CARRY OUT CANCELLATION,
DELIVERY OF THE NEW AND CERTIFICATION OF CANCELLATION OF THE
OLD TO THE DEPARTMENT.

3. BOTH PROCEDURES WILL PERMIT USE OF THE OLD PASSPORT FOR
OFFICIAL OR EMERGENCY TRAVEL DURING THE CHANGE-OVER PERIOD AND
WILL ALSO ACHIEVE THE DEPARTMENT'S PURPOSE OF PHYSICAL POSSESSION
OF THE OLD STYLE PASSPORTS AND ENSURE THAT NO PERSON HAS TWO
VALID DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS.

4. IN ADDITION TO THE FOREGOING, THE EMBASSY WISHES TO BE
CONSISTENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S PRACTICE OF PROVIDING COLOR
PASSPORT PHOTOGRAPHS. HOWEVER, COLOR CANNOT BE PROCESSED IN
TURKEY. WE PROPOSE TAKING THE PHOTOGRAPHS HERE AND THEN FORWARD-
ING THE EXPOSED COLOR FILM TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR DEVELOPING
AND PRINTING AND RETURN TO THE EMBASSY. IF THIS IS POSSIBLE
WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING SO ADVISED AND TO WHAT OFFICE THE
FILM SHOULD BE SENT.
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